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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1. At the meeting with the President to discuss the reorganization of intelligence on Saturday, 10 January 1976, several "customer reactions" were expressed with respect to our intelligence production which are worthy of recording and careful consideration. This was in the course of a long discussion on intelligence, but it reflected the comments of some of our most senior and important consumers.

2. Secretary Kissinger expressed his belief that our most valuable product and what we need to have more of are sophisticated analyses of long-term analytical and historical trends (this recalls his earlier remark to me, "give me things that make me think"). He said that the NIE's still incline somewhat to waffle on sharp judgments by containing trade-off paragraphs reflecting different departmental or agency views. He stressed the importance of integrating economic factors into political studies since economic questions will be of major political importance in the years ahead. He stressed that he was not being critical, merely pointing out areas where we should make every effort to show improvements.

3. Secretary Simon stated that there had been much improvement in the past few years in economic intelligence but that there was still a long way to go. He particularly stressed the need of intelligence to be focused on contributing to economic policy planning. He stressed the need for customer reactions, for inclusion of the number of interested economic entities in Washington, and the need for better "early warning" on economic developments.

[redacted] 25X1A

W. E. Colby 25X1A
Director

cc: DDI
D/DCI/NIO
D/DCI/IC

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